

Also, access to quality healthcare is critically important. I have introduced legislation to bring more doctors to underserved areas around the country, like the San Joaquin Valley, by creating new medical schools. Everyone, no matter who they are or where they live, deserves access to quality healthcare.

These investments will make life better for Americans and will help spur economic growth by creating millions of good-paying jobs. Guess what? We need them.

The health and development of our communities and the economy depend on infrastructure, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in building back America's future better.

It is essential that, in the next few months, we pass the bipartisan infrastructure package, the infrastructure bill and reconciliation package, to bring this country together and to invest in the future.

Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California has 2½ minutes remaining.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CAROL MILLS

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant and a strong, strong advocate for students in my home of Fresno, California, Carol Mills.

Carol Mills was passionate about everything she ever did. She was a 17-year trustee for the Fresno Unified School District, the third largest school district in California, and spent every moment of that time fighting for more and better opportunities for kids.

Early this year, Carol Mills was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease. We all know it is a terrible disease, yet she continued to work throughout that courageous battle with Lou Gehrig's disease and served on the Fresno Unified School Board. Why? Because that was Carol.

During my time in Congress, I got to know and see firsthand her passion for helping students. Two months ago, I visited Carol at her home. We recounted efforts in the past. We laughed. We shared the challenges of the future because, over the years, she never lost sight that our country's future comes first when we prioritize the education, the quality education, of America's next generation. That is why Carol made a difference in everything she ever did.

Our community and the students of Fresno Unified School District were made better because of Carol Mills' passion and dedication to not only her service but to the quality of their education and the future of America.

She will be missed dearly by everyone who knew and loved her. My thoughts and prayers go to the family during this very, very difficult time.

Carol, we loved you. God bless.

#### SUPPORT HYDE AMENDMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, in 1994, a senior U.S. Senator was asked by a constituent how he felt about taxpayer-funded abortion. The Senator responded, "I will continue to abide by the same principle that has guided me throughout my 21 years in the Senate: Those of us who are opposed to abortion should not be compelled to pay for them."

That Senator is now the President of the United States. Yes, those were the words of President Joe Biden on April 7, 1994.

Only 2 years ago, in 2019, then-candidate Biden reaffirmed his support of the Hyde amendment. A campaign statement reiterated that "his position on the Hyde amendment has been consistent."

Since 1976, Congress' position on the Hyde amendment has also been consistent. The bipartisan Hyde amendment has prevented taxpayer funding for abortion.

But, for the first time in decades, House Democrats have stripped this provision from the Federal spending bills we are considering this week. Years of bipartisan consensus have been thrown out the door.

The Hyde amendment is a common-sense provision that most Americans support. In a recent poll, nearly 60 percent of Americans expressed their support for the Hyde amendment, while only 38 percent voiced support for taxpayer-funded abortions.

But this issue is not about the polling or the politics; it is about life. It is estimated that the Hyde amendment has saved more than 2.4 million lives. For over 40 years, these very precious lives have been respected, valued, and saved because of this bipartisan provision.

The survival of millions more precious lives is at stake. That is why I implore my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to reconsider their decision to strip the Hyde amendment from the spending bills we are considering this week. As a society, we must value the unborn and protect the sanctity of life.

Congressman Henry Hyde fought to ban taxpayer-funded abortions, he said, because he believed firmly in the sanctity of life. As he said, the "little, almost-born infant struggling to live is a member of the human family," and "abortion is a lethal assault against the very idea of human rights and destroys, along with a defenseless little baby, the moral foundation of our democracy."

The late Congressman Hyde was right. This is a moral question. That is why I agree with President Biden's statement when he was in the Senate many years ago: Those who disagree with abortion should not now be forced to pay for it.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together, just as we

have for nearly five decades, to support the Hyde amendment and stand up and defend life.

#### CALLING FOR FREEDOM AND LIBERTY IN CUBA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. MOONEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the topic of the recent protests in Cuba, where individuals there are simply asking for freedom and liberty.

My mother is one of 14 children. Her maiden name is Suarez, Eulalia Maria Suarez. She came from Cuba at 20 years old in 1961. My mother and my father raised me to defend freedom, freedom of speech. My father fought in Vietnam against the communist advance there.

What we in America sometimes don't realize is, many other countries, especially communist countries that are tyrannical like Cuba, do not enjoy the basic human rights that we enjoy in this country and many other people in the world enjoy.

Those rights, such as free speech and uncensored internet access, they don't have that in Cuba. Freedom of the press, freedom to protest, freedom to criticize your government, the right to vote in an actual election with more than one candidate who doesn't get 100 percent of the vote, they don't have those rights in Cuba.

What they have is a tyrannical, evil regime that oppresses their people every day. They arrest demonstrators. We saw brave men and women in Cuba for the first time since 1994, almost 30 years, thousands of brave men and women, people in Cuba, protesting against their government, asking for freedoms, asking for basic rights like the ones I just mentioned that they don't have.

What did they do? They all got arrested. They put them in jail. They say it is for a year. When that year goes by, when the regime in Cuba hopes nobody else is looking, they are going to make it 5 years. And they abuse them in jail. That is what happens to protesters in these types of countries.

Now, look, I want to say that I actually agree with Joe Biden on this, on what he said. Joe Biden said, on July 12, this year, and I am going to quote him: "We stand with the Cuban people and their clarion call for freedom and relief from the tragic grip of the pandemic and from the decades of repression and economic suffering to which they have been subjected by Cuba's authoritarian regime. The Cuban people are bravely asserting fundamental and universal rights."

President Biden continues: "Those rights, including the right of peaceful protest and the right to freely determine their own future, must be respected. The United States calls on the Cuban regime to hear their people and serve their needs at this vital moment rather than enriching themselves."

□ 1100

Look, President Biden and, unfortunately not all, but many, Democrats and Republicans agree on this issue, but we need aggressive solutions to the issue.

If the United States of America does not lead, no one else will. They are looking to us for leadership. They are looking to President Biden for leadership. They are looking to Congress for leadership. We need every freedom-loving country to condemn this evil, tyrannical regime and their constant abuses of their people.

America and other countries should not do business with this Communist regime. As Biden himself said, they will only "enrich themselves," and that is what they do. Instead, we should use every pressure point we can to defend freedom and the basic rights for the Cuban people.

This is a heartfelt issue for many. We enjoy these freedoms, and sometimes we forget how tough it is and how much support people need in struggling countries like Cuba. Right now is the time to show strong support for the people of Cuba and for their basic human rights.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 1 minute a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE) at noon.

#### PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Heavenly Creator, author and giver of our lives, we dare to approach You this morning with our prayers, knowing in faith that You are receptive to our requests and in Your mercy will attend to our needs.

And so we ask, that You would answer. We ask for Your favor as we bring before You our need for guidance, patience, and direction. Answer us with Your voice of clarity, Your calming presence, a sign to lead us forward in the way You would have us go.

We seek. We seek Your wisdom as we approach delicate and complex issues. May we find our way into the heart of each matter, that prejudices and politics would be left behind and Your truth would reveal itself to us.

Lord, we knock on doors that seem closed to conversation and compromise. Open for us opportunities

wherein we discover room for growth and cooperation, and may the doors of our own hearts be encouraged to open to possibilities we may be reluctant to consider.

To You who can do infinitely more than we could ever ask or imagine, we ask, we seek, we knock, that You in Your infinite mercy would give us this day what we need.

In the strength of Your name we pray.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. FEENSTRA) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FEENSTRA led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

#### APPROPRIATIONS BILLS ADVANCE IN THE HOUSE

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, Democrats are making sure that as a nation we build back better to create more jobs, cut taxes, and lower costs. President Biden's and congressional Democrats' economic plan to build from the bottom up and the middle out is working. America is getting back to work, and working families are seeing the results.

Jobs are coming back. Under President Biden's leadership in the past 6 months, the economy has gone from creating only 60,000 new jobs a month to creating 60,000 jobs every 3 days. Wages are rising. American workers are seeing long overdue pay raises, bringing home more money to their families, and powering economic growth that comes from the bottom up and the middle out.

Paychecks are growing.

The economy is growing. Thanks to Democrats' leadership, the economy is growing faster than at any time in the last 40 years. Independent projections from the Federal Reserve, the World Bank, and many others all forecast

America this year reaching the highest levels of growth in nearly four decades; and small business optimism is back to pre-pandemic highs.

#### KLAMATH BASIN

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, actions by the Federal Government are devastating the Klamath Basin on the north end of California and south Oregon. Earlier this year our government cut off all of the water for the Klamath Basin from the farmers and the wildlife in order to deal with Endangered Species Act rules for two competing species of fish.

Madam Speaker, you can see the devastation last year with a duck kill that happened inside the refuge. We did manage to rescue this one.

The wildlife refuge has no water. The farmers who also provide water, food, and resting areas for migratory birds now cannot provide food or habitat, and the entire basin is hurting. The government has created an ecological disaster that will result in the death of tens of thousands of federally protected migratory birds.

Last year when the Bureau of Reclamation reduced the water by more than half, 60,000 birds died of botulism. I toured this area last year, and it is indeed devastating. This year there is zero water.

There is no habitat for nesting birds and no feed for them from farmers. This is a government created disaster, and our environment and people are paying the price. We need to deliver the water that farmers own to the farmers, and that will also in turn help deliver water to the Federal refuge.

Federal courts and the Bureau of Reclamation need to get out of the way and let the people on the ground succeed for food and for our wildlife.

#### GROWN FLOWER MONTH

(Mr. CARBAJAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of buying American-grown flowers. Whether it is celebrating a wedding, a graduation, or sending condolences, flowers have been used to mark significant occasions for thousands of years. I have seen the value this industry adds to our economy and communities during my visits with our hardworking central coast growers.

The cut-flower industry generates thousands of jobs and produces significant economic activity each year through flower farmers, distributors, and florists.

California grows an astonishing 70 percent of American-grown flowers, and yet only a fraction of the flowers sold across the country were grown here. That must change.